

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-06 ACDA-07 /104 W
-----150339Z 074553 /12

R 141544Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3871
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBSSY MOSCOW
AMEMBSSY NAIROBI
AMEMBSSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR CG EG AO
SUBJ: ZAIRE IN EGYPTIAN PRESS

REF:CAIRO 6212

1. ZAIRE SITUATION TREATED PROMINENTLY APRIL 14 ONLY BY AKHBAR,
WHICH HIGHLIGHTED MOBUTU ACCUSATION THAT SOVIET-SPONSORED
MERCENARIES LEADING INVASION OF SHABA.

2. ALL PAPERS ALSO REPORTED APRIL 13 SADAT MEETING WITH
MOROCCAN ROYAL CABINET CHIEF BENSOU DA ON "CRITICAL" STAGE FOR
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ARAB WORLD AND AFRICAN CONTINENT." ZAIRE ANGLE IMPLIED BUT
NOT SPECIFICALLY CONNECTED WITH BENSOU DA MISSION.

3. EDITORIAL COMMENTARY DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO WARNINGS THAT
AFRICA MUST NOT BE DRAWN INTO GREAT POWER COMPETITION, THAT
ZAIRE SITUATION CANNOT BE IGNORED LEST "NON-AFRICANS" SEEK TO
REPEAT IT ELSEWHERE. AKHBAR, REFERRING TO CP STATEMENT IN SOVIET

MEDIA DESCRIBING ZAIRE AS INTERNATIONAL ISSUE, CLAIMS THAT SOVIETS TRYING TO CLOUD ISSUE FOR WHICH "MOSCOW IS SOLE SOURCE AND BEARS FULL RESPONSIBILITY."

4. NO MENTION OF EGYPTIAN MILITARY FACT FINDING TEAM OR ANY OTHER EGYPTIANS INVOLVEMENT IN ZAIRE DURING PAST FEW DAYS. NOON CAIRO VOP BROADCAST TODAY SAYS SEC GEN OF GOVT PARTY HAMID MAHMUD TOLD PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY YESTERDAY THAT EGYPTIAN FORCES HAVE NOT BEEN SENT TO ZAIRE, ALTHOUGH IT NOT IN PRESS. JOURNALIST WHO SAW MFA AFRICAN DIRECTOR THIS MORNING RECEIVED FROM HIM PERMISSION QUOTE HIM (WITHOUT PERSONAL ATTRIBUTION) AS SAYING GOE WILL NOT SEND FORCES TO ZAIRE AND GOE, TOGETHER WITH USG, PLACES ITS HOPES ON THE NIGERIAN MEDIATION.

5. COMMENT: EGYPTIANS SEEM TO BE SETTLEING INTO PUBLIC POSTURE OF CONCERNED BUT UNINVOLVED DEFENDERS OF "AFRICA FOR THE AFRICANS." BENSOUDA, FOR INSTANCE, RECEIVED LOW KEY WELCOME FOR PERSONAL EMMISARY OF HOMEBODY KING HASSAN, SUGGESTING THAT GOE LEERY OF BEING PUBLICLY DRAWN FURTHER INTO ZAIRE CONFLICT.
EILTS

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